

The Citizen

A family newspaper for all that is right, true and interesting.

Published every Thursday at Berea, Ky.

BEREA PUBLISHING CO.

(Incorporated)

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Subscription Rates

PAYABLE IN ADVANCE

One Year \$1.00
Six Months50
Three Months25

Send money by Post-office or Express Money Order, Draft, Registered Letter, or one and two cent stamps.

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Advertising rates on application.



"THE STRAIGHT GAME."

George Robinson (not his real name), twenty-four years old, a prisoner in his Britannic majesty's prison of Wormwood Scrubs, saw no use in his continued living, so he hanged himself in his cell. And that was the end of a man who, still very young, thought that all hope ended for him when the prison door closed behind him.

When hope dies, all dies.

In the working of the universe, wise, though often inscrutable, everything has a purpose. Even the pitifully short and hard life of George Robinson will help to uplift the world, for he left a message.

Before he died he wrote a note to a young woman. In it he said:

The straight game is the best, after all. You who laugh at preaching, who think the teachings of the moralists are "rot," think over the testimony of the poor burglar convict. For himself he realized too late that "the straight game is the best." At the end of a short note to his sweetheart he preached the lesson to the world, that others might read and profit thereby.

He had followed the crooked path, knew the weariness of the journey and the disappointment that lies at the farther end. From afar he had beheld the straight road, traveled in honor and respect, with hard toil perhaps, but still with the strong arm of consciousness of right to help over the rough places. He lacked the courage to cross over.

He had played the crooked game and knew that in it the cards are "stacked" against the player, the dice are loaded, the roulette wheel is weighted.

You can't beat it.

He knew the game was crooked, but he had not the moral courage to break away from it. To its very crooked end he played it, for suicide is a crooked way of finishing the game, of casting aside the world's burdens and responsibilities.

The message of George Robinson proved that he had intellect enough to appreciate the meaning of life. If he had but had the courage to stick it out to the end and to serve his term something might have been made of him.

If you are playing the crooked game and think you are going to "get away" with it think of the convict of Wormwood Scrubs and his last message to the world.

HE HELD ON TO THE BALL.

There was an amateur ball game in one of the big cities the other day. On one team was an outfielder named Charley Roeks.

Charley is a little fellow. He is only eight years old. But, young and little as he is, he knows how to play the game.

The ball was batted Charley's way. His "field" was on a river pier—there isn't very much room for playing ball in Charley's part of the city—and the ball threatened to go overboard.

When the "fly" came Charley's way he thought only of the game, not of the danger to himself in following it into the river, for he can't swim.

He jumped into the air and caught the ball. The next thing was a big splash. Charley was in the water with the ball gripped in his hand. When they fished him out the ball was still there.

The play counted; the batter was out. If Charley can hold on to the ball in later life as well as he did when he fell into the river he'll be a good citizen.

He'll hold on.

When the ball of life is batted his way he won't think of the river; he won't think of the danger to himself; he won't stop to reckon the consequences. He'll take a chance, and when he pulls himself out of the river of circumstances—he won't have to be fished out then—he will be found to be holding on to the ball.

In the big game of life an important thing is to hold on to the ball. Keep your eye on it and grab it when it comes toward you.

Above all, hold on to it.

It's the ball that's caught and held that counts, not the one that's juggled so that it finally falls to the ground.

If you cultivate the habit of holding on and don't stop to look back at the

water into which you MAY fall you'll be a valuable man.

Suppose you do fall in. You may drown, of course, but the chances are that the spirit which prompted you to hold on will find a way to get you out.

When you get out you'll have the ball.

And you'll be a hero.

RAM'S HORN BROWN.

If you want your boy to do right, show him how.

The most of us believe in the total depravity of some folks.

In trying to defeat God's purpose the devil helps it along.

The rich man in torment may have had plenty of flowers on his grave.

Fishing for compliments is not much better than fishing on Sunday.

Rottenness in character is as certain to show itself as it is in an apple.

Religion pure and undefiled never has to carry a banner to attract attention.

The religion that can be figured out on a slate can be wiped out with a sponge.

Love is a wonder worker, but it gets along better when it has brains to direct it.

The people who always look on the bright side can always find a bright side to look on.

The Christian's business should come to a standstill whenever it interferes with God's business.

The man who goes out into life with a chip on his shoulder should take plenty of sticking plasters along.

When the last lie is driven out of the world the devil will not be able to find a spot on which to rest his cloven hoof.

JUST A FEW DON'TS

Don't sprinkle salt on the tail of temptation.

Don't try to get the better of a man who hasn't any.

Don't get married with the sole idea that misery loves company.

Don't accept advice from a man who never offers you anything else.

Don't expect Opportunity to come to you with a letter of introduction.

Don't trust to luck. Nine-tenths of the people in the world guess wrong.

Don't follow the beaten track unless you are satisfied to remain beaten.

Don't buy your friends. They never last as long as those you make yourself.

Don't envy the rise of others. Many a man who gets to the top is mere froth.

Don't place too much confidence in appearance. Many a man with a red nose is white all the way through.

Don't forget in times of peace to prepare for war. That's about the only use some of us seem to have for peace.

Don't fail to have an object in view. Many a man leads such an aimless existence that he could fire at random without hitting it.

WAKE UP AND DESTROY THE FLY—NOW.

When the little pests begin to swarm about our doors so thick that no amount of shooting will drive them away, when a good dinner is spoiled for us by the sight of a fly in the gravy, then we will begin to buy fly traps and paper and poison and spend hours of each day swatting them and scolding the children for leaving the door open, and we'll keep right on in the same old way until frost comes. We have done it for years, and we can go on doing it for years to come, and a thousand years from now there will be just as many flies to swat as there are now unless we change our methods.

When we were children we were taught that the fly was a harmless little creature, "nature's scavenger," and therefore a friend to man. Even then we looked upon him with aversion when we found him swimming in our milk. But now that we know his scavenging consists in collecting filth and disease germs in our outhouses and depositing them on our food every man's hand is against him. Science has pronounced the death sentence upon him, and the only reason that his execution is delayed is because there are so many of him.

This new way is the way of prevention. Stables and refuse piles, outhouses and garbage cans are points of attack in the fly campaign. By making the breeding places inhospitably clean and sanitary more can be accomplished in a day than in a season of swatting the fly after it has once come into existence.

The Country Needs New Pioneers; Modern Frontiersmen Are In Demand

By JOHN H. FINLEY, President of the College of the City of New York



Photo by American Press Association.

WE are constantly reminded by those who see our golden age behind us that the ax and the plow, the rifle and the saddle have carried us through the days of our simple life, through democracy's heroic period into A SOFTER AND A DEGENERATE AGE. We are overtrained, over-refined, effeminate, luxury loving children, living most of us, and willingly, like birds in cages which the telegraph and telephone wires have made about us.

We have our food thrust between the rails of steel or the meshes of the wire, water is pumped to our lips, and we NO LONGER HAVE TO ROAM FOREST and plain for these things. I went some time ago into the wild Rockies, but was informed before I started that I should have to take my evening clothes. Montana buys the costliest paintings in Paris. Parkman's "Oregon Trail," so dear to me in my college days, is redolent of the gasoline automobile. There are Carnegie libraries in Wyoming. There are NO FRONTIERSMEN, we say.

STILL THERE ARE NEW PIONEERS IN AMERICA, FOR THIS COUNTRY HAS HER FRONTIERSMEN NOT LESS CERTAINLY TODAY THAN IN THE DECADES OF THE PAST. OF THESE NEW FRONTIERSMEN, FOR THERE ARE MANY, ARE THE MEN WHO HAVE BEEN GATHERED AND NURTURED HERE IN THIS CITY—MEN OF THE LENS AND THE METER, MEN OF THE BALANCE AND THE CRUCIBLE, MEN OF THE MAGNET AND SPECTRUM, OF THE SYLLOGISM, OF THE EQUATION, OF THE CONJUGATION, OF THE BRUSH, THE CHISEL; MEN WHO SEE MORE OF TRUTH WITH THEIR EYES THAN THE AVERAGE MAN, THINK MORE CLEARLY AND EXPRESS THE TRUTH MORE ACCURATELY. THESE ARE NO LESS PRECURSORS, THE FRONTIERSMEN OF CIVILIZATION.

The hardship of the new pioneer is no longer that of sleeping on the bare earth, of long journeys afoot. The privation is no longer that of going without food or drink, of living far from friends, of enduring the untempered cold or withering heat. The hardship is that of HOLDING ONESELF TO A COURSE OF STUDY OR HARD TRAINING that will lead out to the edge of the known; the privation that of denying oneself every luxury, every comfort, to find the truth—this is the NEW FRONTIERING that the republic needs.

POULTRY SHOW AT LEXINGTON

Will Be Big Feature of Blue Grass Fair.

TWENTY SILVER CUPS DONATED

Premiums Will Be Awarded by Judge T. M. Campbell of Darlington, Ind. Pigeon Department to Be Under Management of Special Committee and Exhibits Will Be Judged by Well Known Boston Fancier.

The Blue Grass Fair is a member of the American Poultry Association and the exhibit in this large and important department will be governed by the rules of that association. This is a guarantee of equal rights and justice to all.

A classification embodying premiums for over 300 classes of poultry and pigeons has been prepared, and the management expects this year to be, as usual, a great show.

In addition to the cash premiums, the Blue Grass Fair and a number of merchants of Lexington have donated 20 handsome silver cups, 10 for poultry and 10 for pigeons.

Mr. T. M. Campbell of Darlington, Ind., has been engaged to judge the poultry classes.

Heretofore the pigeon department has been under the management of the poultry department, but through the interest of the wideawake pigeon breeders of this section the management of the Blue Grass Fair has appointed a committee of the foremost pigeon breeders of this section and placed the pigeon department in their hands, which assures a big show under proper management.

Mr. George Feather of Boston, Mass., has been engaged as judge and a winning here will mean as much as at any state fair in the country. Come, bring your birds and help us to make this the largest and most successful show in the South. If you can not come yourself, send your birds, and we assure you they will get the proper care and attention.

Birds will be cooped in standard uniform coops, and one bird to the section, for which the small sum of 5 cents per bird will be charged. This assures no fighting or ragged birds at the end of the show. Every attention will be given birds not accompanied by owners, so, in making an entry here, you can rest assured that your birds will be well cared for.

A Close Buyer.

A New York theatrical man was appointed receiver for a small opera house in an up state town in New York. He was anxious to sell it and was willing to take the first offer made. He advertised the place, and after waiting a week he was delighted when an inquiry came in.

"Say, mister," the prospect asked, "how much do you want for the theater?"

"My friend," the receiver replied, "I am extremely anxious to make a sale, and I'll let you have it for your own price."

"Please, mister," said the inquirer, "can't you do a little better than that?"

—Saturday Evening Post.

MARVELOUS PUZZLE PICTURE AT THE FAIR

"The Shadow of the Cross" Secured for Art Lovers.

Lovers of art and those interested in phenomena will have an opportunity of a life time when "The Shadow of the Cross," the great unfinished, mysterious painting, is placed on exhibition at the Blue Grass Fair this year.

Seen in the light, there is a full length standing figure of the Christ, one hand resting across his breast, the other hanging by his side. Of all the famous paintings of the Saviour, perhaps none other so conveys the clearness of his realization, the pathos of his resignation, and he brings in nearer touch than ever before the peace vouchsafed to all mankind.

Seen in the dark, the figure of Christ appears to be walking in the pale moonlight, an effect of light which no human hand can paint, and now one feels himself in the presence of the man as he was in the Garden of Gethsemane. Above and behind the figure hovers a dark cross, and this is what first suggested the famous title, "The Shadow of the Cross."

At the World's Fair, St. Louis, in McCormack's chapel, in the Irish village, the painting registered more paid admissions than any attraction at the fair. It received a gold medal. The daily papers were pleased to state, "It is the only real novelty at the World's Fair." It also received gold medals at the Jamestown Exposition and the Alaskan-Yukon-Pacific Exposition at Seattle, Wash.

SPEED PROGRAM

Running Races Provided For Each Day of Blue Grass Fair.

An excellent speed program has been arranged for the Blue Grass Fair at Lexington, week of Aug. 11 to 16.

On each of the six days there will be running races and harness racing on every day but Saturday. The two-year-old stake, to be contested during the week, closed with 19 entries. Including nearly all the best in training in Kentucky. This race has always been one of the best races of the year for two-year-olds and this should prove no exception to the rule.

There will be a 2:16 trot, a 2:20 pace, also a 2:25 trot and a 2:22 trot. Rules of the National Trotting Association will govern the races. In addition there will be pony races, mule races, novelty races and others to be announced later.

Late Trial For Witchcraft.

A trial for witchcraft and sorcery occurred in England in 1881. This was the trial of the Fletchers, who were famous clairvoyants, crystal gazers and mesmerists, who gave séances to which the whole fashionable world flocked. They induced a Mrs. Hart Davis to give them jewelry and lace to the value of £10,000 and when proceedings were taken against them fled to America. The husband managed to escape arrest, but Mrs. Fletcher was brought back to England, indicted under the old statute of witchcraft and sorcery and sentenced to twelve months' imprisonment with hard labor.—London Spectator.

Temperance

Conducted by the National Woman's Christian Temperance Union.

VICTORY FOR LAW IN MAINE

Sheriff of Biggest County in Pine Tree State Impached for Willful Neglect of Duty.

The impeachment of the sheriff of Cumberland county, Maine's largest county, for nonfeasance in office proves that the governor and the legislature of that state intend to carry out the wishes of the people who elected them. In his special message to the legislature asking for the removal of the law-defying sheriff, Governor Haines said:

"The people want enforcement of the law against the sale of intoxicating liquors and not the punishment by fine or imprisonment of officers who fail to do that work. They want such officers removed from office and others put in their places who will enforce such laws, honestly and conscientiously. At least, this is my conviction of what our people want. If the last election in this state said anything, it said just that."

"In compliance with the promises which were made by implication, at least, to the people of the state in the last campaign by myself and others in my behalf, and in behalf of the party I represent, and also in accordance with the oath which I took when I assumed the office of governor, I feel that I should submit to your honorable body, for removal from office, such officers as have failed to comply with their oaths of office by neglecting and refusing to follow the mandates of the statutes they were elected to enforce."

The sheriffs of Sagadahoc, Penobscot and Androscoggin, have also been removed and a like fate awaits other unfaithful officers. The governor has the power to fill such vacancies. There are no "blind pigs" or "blind tigers" where the officials have seen eyes, and that is the kind of officers Governor Haines and the lawmakers of Maine intend to have in the Pine Tree state.

WHAT BEER REALLY BUILDS

Not Physical Strength and Intellectual Capacity, but Alms-houses, Prisons and Sepulchers.

One of the most wilfully deceitful announcements on the huge signs which deface the landscape of New Jersey, close to the tracks of several great railways between New York and Philadelphia, proclaims the virtues of "the beer that builds." That particular beverage does build, but the advertisement carefully conceals what it builds. The brewer would leave the impression that it builds physical strength and intellectual capacity. On the contrary, it diminishes and ultimately destroys these, while it builds alms-houses, insane asylums, prisons and sepulchers. The amount of nutriment in a glass of beer is less than the quantity contained in as much flour as could be heaped on the point of a knife blade. The amount of potential waste of brain and brawn, of character and spiritual efficiency in such a potation is beyond calculation. The pure-food law should be amended in such a way as not only to compel the manufacturers of articles for consumption to declare their ingredients, but also in case they promise results to the consumer, to indicate specifically what kind of effects are produced. "The beer that builds" should bear on the label of each bottle precisely what it builds—The Christian Advocate.

WHO ARE "STAY-AT-HOMES"

Men Who, If They Would Take Trouble to Vote, Would Cast Ballots for Righteous Measures.

When the workers for reform discover an absolutely infallible cure for that distemper, "civic apathy," then indeed the liquor people will learn that what they please to term "the small but well-defined company of the enemies of personal liberty" has grown to a mighty army. It has frequently been asserted that the "stay-at-homes" at our elections are the men who, if they would take the trouble to vote, would cast their ballots for righteous measures. "The moment the church people get active, our cause will win, and not before," says County Commissioner O'Neill of Pittsburgh. "I never checked up a voting list yet when all the saloonkeepers, bartenders, brewery workers, and their friends did not vote. Professional men, church-going men and others often are cowards in this fight—they leave it to the women and the preachers. I hope the women will soon get the ballot, for I know that when they do, one of the first things accomplished by them will be the wiping out of the drink curse."

Refutation.

One of the latest and best refutations of the statement of the liquor people that "prohibition kills prosperity" is the last report of Maine's state assessors showing a gain of nearly \$12,500,000 in the wealth of the "Pine Tree" state.

Eliminate Poverty.

If temperance were swept out of our country there would be hardly enough poverty left to give healthful exercise to our charitable impulses.—Bishop Phillips Brooks.

INTERNATIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

(By E. O. SELLERS, Director of Evening Department, The Moody Bible Institute, Chicago.)

LESSON FOR JULY 20

MOSES CALLED TO DELIVER ISRAEL.

LESSON TEXT—Ex. 3:1-14. Read the entire chapter.
GOLDEN TEXT—"Blessed are the pure in heart for they shall see God." Matt. 5:8.

Last week we learned that Moses had a vision of a great need; in today's lesson there is revealed to Moses the other half of the lesson, viz., One who could meet that need; One who could supply all that was lacking when Moses made his first ill-advised attempt to free his kinsmen.

Bush and Voice.

I. The Manner of Moses' Call. His call came in the midst of his labor as a shepherd. God does not set a premium upon idleness and his greatest revelation came through two very common agencies, a bush and a voice. There were probably many other such bushes on the back side of the desert, but this one is distinguished by the presence of Jehovah. Moses turned aside to see this "great sight." Why was it not consumed? Because it was divinely lighted. Having secured his attention Jehovah spoke to Moses, called to him out of the midst of the bush. When men pause in the faithful discharge of the common tasks of life and consider God it will not be long before they will hear his still, small voice. God's call is never to the idler and is generally through the common agencies and experiences of life. The time is ripe for deliverance. God had tested Moses for forty years. Now God is ready to reveal himself here upon Horeb, the mountain of God. Jehovah's presence is symbolized by the fire (see chapter 13:21, 22 and 19:18). The lowly bush suggests the incarnation. In Jesus humanity was on fire with the presence of God, yet was not consumed.

II. The Purpose of Moses' Call. This was twofold: (a) Deliverance from sorrow, oppression and the task masters of Egypt (type of sin) vv. 9, 10, 17. (b) Deliverance to freedom, a better land, to service, worship and riches, vv. 8, 12, 21, 22. Moses made ready response to the voice of God saying, "Here am I" (v. 4). He had not grown cold and cynical during his shepherd days, but rather was more keen and teachable. He had, however, another lesson to learn, viz., the majesty and holiness of God. So it was he is halted and commanded to remove his shoes (v. 5). The Christian can draw rich with boldness (Heb. 10:19) but he must remember to do so with "reverence and awe" (Heb. 12:28, 29).

God's Answer.

III. The Credentials That Accompanied Moses' Call. As has been suggested, this call came by means of two very common agencies, viz., a bush and a voice. While Moses no longer depends upon his own strength yet he lacks that assurance and those credentials that will justify, in his own sight, a return to the court of Pharaoh. "Who am I that I should go?" God's answer is, "Certainly I will be with thee." Moses need have no fear, nor need the Christian (Matt. 28:30). "If God be for us who can be against us?" Our commission which is from God is certain of ultimate success. There could be no possibility of failure for Moses is told that when deliverance is accomplished "ye shall serve God upon this mountain." Yet Moses is not satisfied for he remembers his previous experience with his kinsman (2:13, 14), what shall he say to them? In answer God gives Moses a name by which he shall be known "I am that I am," and further he is to tell them that he is the "Jehovah, the God of their fathers." God does not set before Moses a primrose path to follow. He plainly states that Pharaoh will object and that their deliverance will be wrought by a mighty hand.

IV. Moses' Response to the Call. We have seen that this call came "in" the midst of the common duties of daily toil; that it was "for" a definite, a specific purpose, deliverance from and deliverance to; this call came "by" God. A God, past, present, future. God a person, "I am," God, a power, "I will," but the call was "to" an agent. God works his purposes through man, "I will send thee." This agent had assurance, proper credentials, and was promised power, sufficient aid. Moses as this agent was a man of (1) humility (v. 11); (2) lacking in knowledge (v. 12); (3) lacking in confidence (Ch. 4:1); (4) lacking eloquence (4:10).

V. The Teaching. We thus have presented a wonderful revelation of God. The unconsumed bush appealed to Moses. Filled to fullness with the flaming fire of God's glory it was still unconsumed, a suggestion of what the presence of God means either in a man or among a people. The visible is followed by the audible and there is brought to our attention the absolute purity of God, the infinite power of God, the marvelous patience of God, the overwhelming pity of God and the irresistible patience of God. Such infinite resources are at our disposal.